

(54) Title: METHODS FOR LABELING NUCLEOTIDES, LABELED NUCLEOTIDES AND USEFUL INTERMEDIATES

(57) Abstract

The present invention provides improved methods for labeling nucleotides. The method of the invention for labeling nucleotides comprises the steps of: reacting a reactive moiety of a linker, which linker is a platinum compound having a stabilizing bridge and two reactive moieties, with an electron donating moiety of a spacer, which spacer comprises a chain having at least four atoms and at least one heteroatom in the chain, which spacer further comprises said electron donating moiety at one end of the chain and a reactive moiety at the other end of the chain; reacting the reactive moiety of said spacer with a label; reacting the other reactive moiety of said linker with a nucleotide. A major advantage of the invention is that all nucleotides can be labeled by the method of the invention, whereas until now the attachment of a label was mostly restricted to one or certain nucleotides.